

# inside OAKLAND

A newsletter for Oakland University colleagues

## Flying high

Oakland inventor of aircraft safety tool to speak during President's Colloquium



Michael Hung

Credit Oakland University Engineering Professor Michael Hung for lessening one of our greatest fears: crashing in an airplane.

Hung invented shearography, a laser-optical technique to sense defects in aircraft structures, in particular, aircraft tires. The Federal Aviation Administration has endorsed the technique for nondestructive testing of aircraft tires. The method is so effective that it has virtually eliminated aircraft accidents due to tire failures.

Hung will explain and demonstrate shearography at OU in a November 11 presentation for the 1998-99 President's Colloquium Series. The event, free and open to the public, runs from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and includes a reception and question-and-answer session (call 4648 for more information).

Shearography is emerging as a major inspection tool: The aerospace industry uses

shearography for nondestructive testing of aircraft structures; the rubber industry uses it for evaluating tire quality.

Hung will also discuss many new applications of shearography, including an important ongoing research project at OU for the automotive industry. The project goal for the United States Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles (PNGV) is to develop shearography for inspecting adhesive bonds. It's part of a government-auto industry effort to make an affordable car that can get 80 miles per gallon.

"To make such a jump in gas mileage, PNGV focuses on lightweight vehicles using polymer and composite materials," Hung says. "Adhesive bonds are essential to the joining of these new materials. The adhesive bonding process, however, has a higher likelihood of having imperfections. Shearography

has exhibited by far the greatest potential for evaluating adhesive joints."

Hung is the John F. Dodge Chair at OU. He has published more than 170 technical papers and six book chapters; he holds six United States patents and has won numerous professional awards.

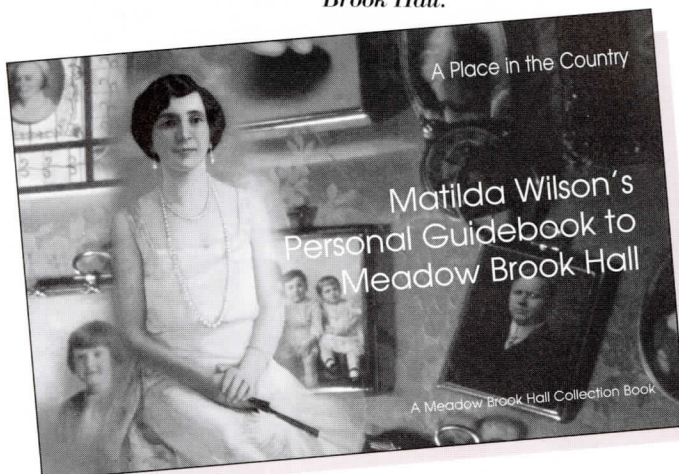
In 1991, he received Oakland's Research Excellence Award; in 1992 he won the Outstanding Faculty Award of Michigan Universities. Recently he received the prestigious BJ Lazan Award from the Society for Experimental Mechanics for his original research contributions in experimental mechanics.

Hung has served as a consultant for many organizations and corporations, including the U.S. Army Missile Command, NASA, U.S. Tank and Automotive Command, IBM, Seagate Technology, B.F. Goodrich, Boeing, Lockheed and the Big Three automakers.

## Start the presses

Oakland to roll out university press this fall

The new Oakland University Press will launch a pilot project this fall, titled *A Place in the Country: Matilda Wilson's Personal Guidebook to Meadow Brook Hall*.



Supported by a \$10,000 Strategic Plan Fund grant, the press was the inspiration of Bradley P. Driscoll Jr. CAS '66, president, Lyceum Publishing.

- Goals include providing:
- contributions to scholarly and consumer publishing
  - publishing opportunities for faculty research and scholarship
  - university recognition opportunities
  - student enrichment and education

"The Oakland University Press will advance the educational mission of the university by direct, tangible and enduring contributions in teaching, learning, research and service," says Geoff Upward, press executive director and director of University Communications and Marketing. "Further, the press activities and products of the press will produce local, regional and national recognition in selected areas. Our charge is to operate on a self-supporting, revolving fund basis, so we will be seeking titles with strong sales potential."

"We will publish through selected 'lines,' areas of university strength and excellence."

The first line selected, focusing on Meadow Brook Hall, will address such topics as architecture and architectural history, social history, historic preservation and interpretation, historical landscape architecture, and art and art history. Future MBH "line" projects may include Wilson family life, a MBH cookbook and a MBH coffee table book.

Press activity may also include creation of a publishing curriculum in the College of Arts and Sciences. Participants would learn the steps in the book publishing process, and, as part of their work, create a

### Order your Matilda Wilson book now

*A Place in the Country: Matilda Wilson's Personal Guidebook to Meadow Brook Hall* costs \$8.95 plus \$3 for shipping and handling for the first book and another \$1 for each additional book. Michigan residents must add 6 percent sales tax.

To place an order or for more information, call the Meadow Brook Hall Gift shop at 3140. The gift shop accepts VISA/MasterCard.

product that could be sold as a title through the press (with generated revenues funding the class project for the next year as well as producing additional income for the press).

An advisory board for the pilot project includes Lynn Anderson, external relations director, MBH; Lisa Ashby, executive director, MBH; David Disend, vice president for University Relations and executive director of the OU Foundation; David Downing, interim vice president, Academic Affairs and Provost; William V. Haney, executive vice president of DMB&B advertising and founder and president of Momentum Books; Driscoll and Upward. An ongoing board will be formed after publication of the pilot project.

## breaking NEWS

### Discounted tickets available for Quayle lecture

Tickets for the Dan Quayle lecture November 11 are \$5 for Oakland University faculty, staff and students.

The former U.S. vice president will speak about this year's elections and current national issues at the 7 p.m. event in the Athletic Arena, Recreation and Athletics Center. The Student Life Lecture Board and WXYT Talk Radio is sponsoring the lecture, along with support from the OU Forensics Team and the Department of Rhetoric, Communications and Journalism.

Tickets for the general public are \$20. Tickets are available at the Center for Student Activities Service Window, all Ticketmaster Outlets and at the door.

Call (248) 645-6666 or go on-line at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

### Coupon books for sale

The Women of OU are selling Entertainment '98 books. Cost is \$40.

Checks can be made payable to Women of OU. To order, call Susan Cee at 2026.



bits and **PIECES**

**Innovative engineering management program gears up to graduate its third class**

Eleven international students will graduate in November from an innovative engineering management program offered by Oakland University and Vienna University of Technology.

The Engineering Management Executive Education Program meets a need in European engineering education for interdisciplinary academic training for midlevel technical managers.

“No other engineering management program combines the best of two competitive worlds — European quality standards with American business skills,” says Naim Kheir, program director and professor and chair, Department of Electrical and Systems Engineering.

Graduates earn an OU master’s degree in engineering management. VUT will hold the graduation ceremony on November 19 in Vienna. OU’s Kheir; John Gardner, dean, School of Business Administration; and Michael Polis, dean, School of Engineering and Computer Science, plan to attend.

**New services for the hearing and visually impaired at MBT**

Oakland University’s Meadow Brook Theatre will offer new services for the hearing and visually impaired during its 1998-99 season, with designated performances of each production providing special interpreting.

American Sign Language-interpreted performances will be offered on one Tuesday evening for each of the season’s seven productions. Audio-described performances will be offered on one Wednesday evening, also for each of the seven productions.

Ticket reservations and more information are available from the MBT box office at 3300.

**Prestigious ‘Wellcome Visiting Professorship’ comes to OU**

Oakland University plays host November 2 and 3 to the Wellcome Visiting Professorship in Microbiology.

The American Society for Microbiology awarded the event to the Department of Biological Sciences for the 1998-99 academic year. The event, which was proposed and applied for by Associate Professor Jill Zeilstra-Ryalls, was sponsored by the Burrows Wellcome Fund. It provided a \$5,000 award and plaque to the visiting professor at the time of the lecture.

The visiting professor, Thomas Silhavy, is a Warner-Lambert-Parke-Davis professor of Molecular Biology at Princeton University. His Wellcome Lecture topic was titled *Parallel Pathways Perceive Periplasmic Problems*.

The lecture is scheduled from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. November 3.

**Academic Skills Center earns international tutor certification**

The College Reading and Learning Association awarded certification to Oakland University’s Academic Skills Center. The ASC employs more than 75 tutors who obtain work experience while reinforcing their academic skills and developing their leadership abilities.

**SEHS adds three new doctoral programs and celebrates a fourth**

Graduate students gained three new doctoral options in the School of Education and Human Services this fall, just as the school’s original Ph.D. program in reading and language arts celebrated its 20th birthday.

The newly added Ph.D. in education offers three distinct specialization tracks: counseling, early childhood education and educational leadership. Combined, the three programs

admitted about 25 students to the initial class this fall; future classes will be comprised of eight to 10 new students annually in each specialty.

**A new home for the holidays — School of Health Sciences moves to Hannah Hall**

Get your housewarming gifts ready.

The long-awaited move for the School of Health Sciences has become a reality. SHS now is located in Hannah Hall, and the faculty and staff are excited.

“We have twice as much space as we had in Vandenberg,” SHS Dean Ronald E. Olson says. “Our new facility accommodates permanent classrooms, something our IHS and Medical Lab Sciences programs haven’t had.

“We often have to teach in the chemistry or biology classrooms, but now we have our own classrooms for lab science courses. We’ve never had dedicated research space for faculty — until now. Also, we’ve been a lake away from the academic centers. Now we’re right in the thick of things. All in all, this is a tremendous milestone for the school.”

Olson says the new facility provides a better learning environment for students and an improved center of activity for the SHS.

A dedication is planned for winter 1999.

new**FACES**

- **Kenneth Eagle**, help desk supervisor, Office of Training and User Support
- **Wendy Delarosa**, program administrator, Meadow Brook Hall
- **Linda Grunow**, secretary I, Curriculum, Instructional Leadership
- **Michelle La-Vita**, office assistant II, Alumni Relations
- **John Mitchell**, academic specialist, Special Programs
- **James Rivard**, co-director, Beginning School Math
- **Steven Shablin**, registrar, Office of the Registrar
- **Joan Wancour**, instructional assistant, School of Education and Human Services
- **Terry White**, custodian I, Campus Facilities and Operations

**campus REGISTRY**

**Hoda S. Abdel-Aty-Zohdy**, Engineering, attended the Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education at Bryn Mawr College. The institute was established to improve the status of women at the middle and executive levels of higher education administration. Participants are provided with skills and information on the management of colleges and universities and perspectives on teaching, research and service. This program encourages participants to tackle new projects and seek knowledge.

**Adrienne Bass**, Alumni Relations, has been accepted and is participating in this year’s Leadership Oakland class.

**Ka C. Cheok**, Engineering, and graduate research assistant G. Edzko Smid have earned the prestigious 1998 Nissan Award for Best Research Innovation for their presentation, *Heads-Up-Display Collision Warning and Traffic Monitoring System*. The award was conferred this summer in usseldorf, Germany, during the International Symposium of Automotive Technology and Automation, Europe’s largest automotive forum.

**Faye Cobb**, Physical Therapy, received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Wayne State University. Her research deals with responses to pain in children with sickle cell disease.

**Maira Fracassa**, published an article in the spring 1999 issue of *The Journal of Popular Culture* titled *Medicating the Self: The Roles of Science and Culture in the Construction of Prozac*.

**Brian Goslin**, Exercise Science, has returned to the program as director after serving as acting dean of Graduate Study at OU for nearly two years. During this time, **Stafford Rorke** was interim director of the program. For the winter 1999 semester, Rorke will again serve as interim director while Goslin is on sabbatical.

**Frances Jackson** and **Stephanie Schim**, Nursing, have implemented a study to locate barriers that decrease the use of hospice services by African-American clients. The study’s first phase surveyed clients of home care nurses to learn how clients access hospice services and what they perceive as barriers to care. Jackson also was appointed a research fellow for MedTEP at Henry Ford Health System, Detroit. She co-wrote with Adele Webb a grant that would provide funding for a study on HIV/AIDS risks for older adults.

**Robert Jarski**, Exercise Science, authored two textbook chapters with fall 1998 publication dates. The first, *Life-Long Learning Skills*, will be published in the second edition of *The Physician Assistant*. The second, *Test Taking Skills*, will be published in the second edition of *Appleton and Langes Review for the Physician Assistant Certification Exam*.

**Christina Leibold-Sieloff**, Nursing, is serving as chair of the American Nurses’ Association Congress of Nursing Practice. She also represents the School of Nursing on the University Search Committee for the VPAA. This past spring, Leibold-Sieloff presented *Power: A Nursing Resource for the 21st Century* at the Alpena District Nurses’ Association.

**Donald Mayer**, Business Administration, won second place in the 1998 Ralph J. Bunche Award for Best International Business Law Paper. The award was made under the auspices of Prentice Hall Business Publishing and the International Law Section of the Academy of Legal Studies in Business.

**Susan McGough**, Alumni Relations, taught a workshop on volunteer administration for University of Virginia Continuing Education in Charlottesville.

**June Miller**, Nursing, presented a two-day workshop on *Cultural Competency* at Kalamazoo Community College in May. This fall, she spoke on developing concepts through qualitative research at Wayne State

University. On November 10-11, she will present *Cultural Communications Skills: Strategies for Creating a Culturally Sensitive Work Environment* at Henry Ford Hospital’s 11th Annual Harold Johns Distinguished Nursing Lectureship. Miller is also pursuing a position on the board of the Transcultural Nursing Society, an international organization. Miller and **Anahid Kulwicki** were accepted for publication with an article written on domestic violence in the Arab American population. The article, *Transforming Environmental Conditions Through Community Education*, will appear in the *Journal of Mental Health Nursing*. They conducted a research study this summer as part of the Henry Ford Center for Academic Nursing Partnership for Cultural Competency, assessing cultural competency for care of Arab Americans at Henry Ford’s Fairlane Medical Center and designing plans for improving care to this population.

**Dale Nesbary**, Political Science, had his article, titled *Handling Emergency Calls for Service: Organizational Production of Crime Statistics*, accepted for publication in the journal *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies and Management*. Nesbary presented *Acquisition of Computer Aided Dispatch Systems: Administrative and Political Considerations* at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Criminal Justice Association in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

**Ronald Olson**, Health Sciences, worked on a project this summer at Daimler-Chrysler AG involving statistical analysis of work-related injuries.

**Lucia Perez**, Counseling, will make presentations at two upcoming conferences: *False positive diagnosis of Learning Disabilities in Hispanic Children* at the 6th National Conference of the American College of Forensic Examiners on December 13, Naples, Florida, and *Women’s Transition into Middle Age* at the Michigan Counseling Association Annual Conference on October

27, Grand Rapids, Michigan. **Dawn Pickard**, Curriculum, Instruction and Leadership, has been selected School of Education and Human Services associate dean.

**Pat Piskulich**, Political Science, was named interim head of Oakland University’s Public Affairs Research Laboratory, while the organization’s founder and former head, **Bill Macauley**, serves as College of Arts and Sciences’ interim dean. PARL, formally organized in 1992, has conducted applied research projects for local governments, nonprofit agencies, school districts and other public-oriented organizations since 1983. Recent projects have included a survey for Rochester Community Schools on its police/school liaison policy, and a year-long evaluation of the Early On program for Oakland schools.

**Luellen Ramey**, Counseling, published *The Use of Gestalt Interventions in the Treatment of the Resistant Alcohol-Dependent Client* in the July 1998 issue of the *Journal of Mental Health Counseling*.

**Margaret Rivero-Early**, Nursing, will present *Proposed Nursing Care of Battered Women in the Emergency Department* at a research conference co-sponsored by Sigma Theta Tau and the Northwest Indiana Nursing Research Consortium. The conference takes place November 6 in Merrillville, Indiana. She will present it again December 6 at a meeting of the American Assembly of Men in Nursing in Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Phyllis Rooney**, Philosophy, published her paper, *Putting Naturalized Epistemology to Work, in Epistemology, The Big Questions*. She also gave presentations on her book project, *Feminism and Reason*, at the University of Missouri, Kansas City, Rockhurst College, Kansas City, and at the University of Kansas at Lawrence.



# Paul Newman, move over



## Engineering students learn about customers while automating spaghetti sauce-making process

Of the many challenges Gary Barber presents his engineering students, few figured their toughest problem during the semester would involve spaghetti.

Barber, associate professor, Mechanical Engineering, was presented with the challenge by Mary Ann Radke, a teacher at Bovenschen School, Warren, Michigan.

Radke's class of multiple-impaired students had received a \$5,000 grant to make and distribute spaghetti sauce. Radke wanted her students to be able to make the spaghetti themselves. But there was a problem, and it wasn't with the recipe.

"Her students just weren't capable of doing the work required, such as chopping onions and working with stoves," Barber says. "Then she had the idea of finding someone to engineer a mechanical process that would allow her students to become more involved."

"I was teaching a manufacturing processes course and hadn't assigned a project yet. Mary Ann called our department and when I saw the challenge, I knew we could do it," Barber says.

He divided his class into 10 groups, assigning each one to work on a different part of the sauce-making process. The groups were asked to develop mechanisms that would help Radke's students accomplish each step — stirring the sauce, sautéing onions, pouring the sauce and onions into a pan, pouring sauce into containers, affixing the label.

"Applying engineering principles and their own

ingenuity, they used everything from a popcorn popper to a window motor from a Ford Bronco. And the amazing thing is, it worked," Barber says. "We had the whole process inspected by the health department and it passed. In the end, Mrs. Radke's students were able to make the sauce with her help, giving them something they all could be proud of."

Radke's students weren't the only ones who realized the benefits.

"My students and I felt a great sense of achievement," Barber says. "Many times as engineers, we don't actually see our customers in a direct way. This project allowed us to meet our customers and see the outcome of our work. And we gained the immediate satisfaction of helping others."

Barber enjoys giving students opportunities to work outside the classroom on practical projects, which has proved to be a highly effective learning approach. In the case of the sauce, some students have continued to work on the project even after the semester ended.

By taking students beyond the limits of written assignments and theory, Barber shows them a world of experiences they otherwise might not have seen. In the sauce project, Barber

taught the importance of using engineering skills to help the community, something he hopes to duplicate in the semesters to come.

"We hope to expand this. We'll continue to work with Bovenschen School and the John F. Kennedy School in Pontiac, a school for physically and mentally impaired children," he says. "The needs are unlimited. But as long as we have students interested in participating, we'll continue to work with the schools."

With ingenuity like this, who knows what Barber's engineering students will cook up next.

## Making waves overseas

### Oakland engineers solve shipping challenge in Rotterdam

Surveying the 50-meter shipping cranes of the European Container Terminal

(ECT) at Rotterdam, Netherlands, was a daunting experience for School of Engineering and Computer Science Professor Ka C. Cheok and Graduate Research Assistant G. Edzko Smid.

Arriving at one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world, they found themselves facing a challenge — how to automate seven \$16-million shipping cranes to increase their cargo-moving ability.

As in any industry, time is money. The competing harbors in Japan had developed automated cranes that dramatically improved the process of moving cargo containers

from arriving freighters to land. ECT enlisted the aid of Delft University of Technology, Netherlands, to design a similar automated system.

The Delft engineers invited Cheok and Smid to help solve the challenge.

Rotterdam services about 100 ships every day, and each ship transports as many as 4,000 steel containers. They weigh up to 60 tons and transport products such as cars and raw materials across Europe.

The crane operators lift a trolley over the ship, pick up

again, in less than two minutes, while controlling the skew and sway that result from weather, wind or the simple physics of movement."

The engineers spent three months studying the process. The result was the research paper, *3D Modeling Visualization for Studying Controls of the Jumbo Container Crane*, co-authored by Cheok, Smid, J.B. Klaassens, G. Honderd and A. El Azzouzi.

"We developed a three-dimensional model visualization for studying controls of the container crane," Smid says. "We can actually predict the behavior of a crane in three dimensions of space accounting for wind, unevenly loaded containers and swing. We can also predict skew and developed algorithms to control it. Once we have a crane equipped with the motors and drives we need, we'll be able to move the containers within a 60-second loop. That's half the time of manual operators."

Their hosts were pleased with the result.

"They were thrilled," Smid says. "They realized how much this technology was needed, and we were glad to help them develop it."

Not surprisingly, Cheok and Smid returned this fall excited about the accomplishment — and the new experiences that will benefit future students.

"We look forward to taking these lessons into the classroom," Cheok says. "We made a remarkable achievement, and we'd like to share what we learned with Oakland's engineering students."

**"They were thrilled. They realized how much this technology was needed, and we were glad to help them develop it."**

— G. Edzko Smid  
OU Graduate Research Assistant

containers one by one, then place them on a train for ground transportation — a cycle that takes about 120 seconds. The operators' challenge is to keep the trolley controlled, within two inches of tolerance.

"Wind and weather are great factors," Cheok says. "They can slow the process significantly by causing the containers to swing or sway. When the crane terminal exceeds the loading time, the operators must pay huge fees to the captain for holding up the freighter. So time really is the issue."

"Our objective was to design an automated system that could move each container in one cycle, from boat to train to boat



## employee of the MONTH

**EMPLOYEE:** Dorothy Duffy  
**TITLE:** Laboratory Stockroom Assistant  
**DEPARTMENT:** Chemistry  
**LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 25 Years

**COMMENTS:** "Dorothy is not only unflinchingly conscientious in performing her own, often very demanding, job responsibilities, but never hesitates to assist her peers achieve their administrative goals."

"Dorothy is solely responsible for seeing that all materials needed for our teaching laboratories are ordered and ready at the appropriate times. With the number of laboratories offered and the diversity of experiments this is a tremendous task. No matter how late faculty are in getting their laboratory syllabi to Dorothy, she always manages to have all chemicals prepared when they are needed."

For nomination forms, call ERD at 3480 or send an e-mail message to ryckman@oakland.edu

## oakland WAY OF LIFE

### Enjoy healthy holiday meals with the *Holiday Eating Survival Guide*

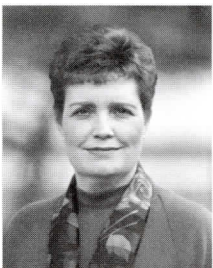
Holiday meals are fun events, but they can devastate your diet — if you don't plan right.

Follow these tips to enjoy a healthier holiday.

- Start now. It's easier to enjoy seasonal foods when you've made healthy choices in the weeks leading up to the holidays. You'll find plenty of nutritional selections in the Oakland Center, from subs to fruits and veggies.
  - Plan a balanced meal. Include a variety of foods that will meet your meal plan needs.
  - Think ahead. On the days of holiday meals and parties, eat lightly at other meals to balance out the calories and fat in your party food.
  - Serve yourself a small portion first. Then go back for seconds if you find you're still hungry.
  - Choose two or more low-calorie or calorie-free foods (such as vegetables) to help "fill up" at meals.
  - Remember, alcohol can cause low blood sugar reactions up to 36 hours later and is very high in calories. Also, it must be counted as part of your diet. Never drink on an empty stomach and only in moderation (one to two drinks once or twice a week). Sip slowly and use sugar-free mixers. A 12 oz. regular beer equals 150 calories; 12 oz. light beer, 100 calories; 1-1/2 oz. liquor, 100 calories; 12 oz. wine cooler, 215 calories; 4 oz. wine (not sweet), 80 calories
  - Always have healthy snack foods available, such as raw vegetables, pretzels and low-fat crackers.
  - Eat slowly and enjoy the holiday food.
  - To keep temptation to a minimum, socialize away from the table.
  - Make exercise a regular part of your holiday. Visit Oakland's new Recreation and Athletics Center or join the Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute's workout program. You'll burn off fat, sugar, calories and holiday stress.
- For more information, call MBHEI at 4523.
- Next issue: *The reality of winter outdoor exercise in Michigan.*



get to **KNOW**  
.....  
**OU STAFF WHO  
ARE STUDENTS**



**LINDA VAN NATTA**  
Executive Secretary  
Campus Facilities and Operations



**TRACY UTECH**  
Assistant Director  
Annual Giving



**CELESTE GRICE**  
Research Information Clerk  
Institutional Research and  
Assessment



**IOLA ADAMS**  
Administrative Secretary  
Art and Art History

<b>What is your major/student level?</b>	I'm in the MBA Program.	I'm working toward my master's in public administration.	I am a graduate student in the master of arts in counseling program.	My major is currently undecided with leanings toward business administration. I am probably the oldest freshman at OU.
<b>What do you like most about working at Oakland University?</b>	Lots of interesting people.	I most enjoy the people and the atmosphere of the university.	I like new challenges. It's an exciting time to work at OU because there is a sense of motion — as though anything is possible.	The opportunity to be in a great learning environment.
<b>What do you like least about working at Oakland University?</b>	Attending classes as well makes for a "long day."	I least enjoy the use of so many hard-copy forms for various university processes.	My commute to work. I moved to Grand Blanc in August.	The once-a-month pay.
<b>What do you expect to get out of this experience?</b>	The satisfaction of completing a goal I aspired to long ago.	The combination of working and pursuing a degree at Oakland provides a great opportunity to meet and work with interesting people.	I have continued to grow and change. I am a different person than if I had not come to work here.	I expect to become a more learned and well-rounded individual.
<b>Why did you choose to work at OU?</b>	They were hiring at a good starting wage and good benefits when I needed to support my family.	I have always been made to feel a part of OU. I like the positive, community feeling.	OU is truly a great place to work and learn.	I was pushed into it by a former employee.

**SON,  
HFHS  
introduce  
program  
to  
increase  
critical  
care  
nurses**



**INSIDE OAKLAND** is published each month September through May for the faculty and staff of Oakland University by the University Communications and Marketing Department (C&M).

**Newsletter Staff:**  
Sheila Carpenter, Jennifer Charney, Dennis Collins, Ted Coutilish, Priscilla Fan, Angela Marchesi, Dawn Stewart

**Call:** 3184 **Fax:** 3182  
**Write:** 119 NFH  
**E-mail:** coutilis@oakland.edu  
♻ Printed on recycled paper

**DEADLINES**  
.....  
Submit items for publication no later than the 10th of the month before publication  
**NEXT DEADLINE**  
.....  
December 10

The Oakland University School of Nursing has teamed with Henry Ford Health System to increase the number of critical care nurses in metro Detroit. Based on the first graduates, the program is already a remarkable success.

"The need for critical care nurses is tremendous," SON Assistant Dean Terry Wehrwein says. "The technologies that exist in health care today are saving more lives and increasing the number of critical care beds. At Henry Ford Hospital, there are as many critical care beds as regular hospital beds."

Traditionally, critical care nurses must have several years' experience, typically on medical/surgical or general medicine units, before transferring to an intensive care unit. Wehrwein says this practice isn't keeping up with demand.

"We needed to develop a way for nurses to move more quickly into the expanding critical care environment," she says. "The need was there. Our students were interested in critical care. The question was simply how to match up the two."

The SON met the demand head-on, partnering with HFHS to begin an innovative critical care program that gives qualified nursing students the opportunity to graduate into a critical care nursing position at HFHS — guaranteed.

"We know many students are interested but just don't have the specific skills to work with critical care clients," she says. "This new program solves that problem. Applicants are first interviewed by nursing managers. After they pass the seven-week course with a 2.5 grade-point average or above, perform well in their clinical tests and pass their boards, HFHS offers them an immediate position in critical care."

The first class has fared beyond expectations: 30 students began the program and 26 accepted offers from Henry

Ford, says Mary Kravutske, nurse scholar, HFHS/OU Center for Academic Nursing. Three withdrew from the course and a fourth moved out of state.

"The students were all very excited," she says. "They wanted to work in intensive care, and this allowed them to start their career right in that unit. Best of all, the staff have accepted these new graduates. Some had their reservations, but they also know how difficult it is to find experienced nurses to fill these positions. The staff had the opportunity to meet the candidates, and that made a difference."

Wehrwein hopes the SON can expand the concept to other areas.

"There's a serious need for home care nurses," Wehrwein says. "We've had smaller, similar programs related to home care in the past and we may revive them in the future. We're looking at expanding what we did with the critical care course and providing parallel programs for nurses interested in maternal child or home care areas."

She says the program is a trailblazer in the nursing profession.

"Hospitals have had internships for students in the past, but not for-credit courses. And the results are undeniable. We've been able to hire qualified critical care."



**calendar of  
EVENTS**

People with disabilities who need special assistance to attend any of the events listed may call the sponsoring unit or the Office of Disability Support Services at 3266. Meadow Brook Hall tours are from 1:30 p.m. daily and 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Sundays (last tour begins at 3:45 p.m.).

**November**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 1-15           | <i>Tiffany, Essence of Light, The Meadow Brook Hall Collection, MBAG</i>        |
| 2-6            | Cultural Awareness Week   |
| 27-30          | <i>Holiday Walk — Picture Perfect Holidays, MBH</i>                             |
| 20-Dec         | Karen Anne Klein, <i>Private Nature</i> , MBAG                                  |
| 25-29          | Thanksgiving Break  |
| 12-15,17-22    | <i>Artist Descending a Staircase and Albert's Bridge, MTD</i>                   |
| 1,3-8,10-15    | <i>The Miracle Worker, MBT</i>  |
| 14,17          | Buzz Sutherland, Hamlin Lounge, 9 p.m.  |
| 21-22,24,26-29 | <i>Christmas Carol, MBT</i>   |
| 1              | <i>Così fan tutte</i> (Beware of Women) opera, MTD, VAR RH, 2 p.m.              |
| 4              | OU women's basketball vs. Western Ontario, 5:15 p.m.                            |
| 4              | OU men's basketball: Basketball Unlimited, 7:35 p.m.                            |
| 5              | OU Symphonic Band, Serendipitous Serenade, VAR RH, 8 p.m.                       |
| 6              | OU men's swimming vs. Wright State, 7 p.m.                                      |
| 6              | OU women's swimming vs. Wright State, 7 p.m.                                    |
| 7              | Ground Zero, conference, OC   |
| 7              | OU men's soccer vs. Mercyhurst, 2 p.m.  |
| 10             | US Flight Trainer, SPB, OC End Lounge, 11 a.m., 5 p.m.                          |
| 10             | OU volleyball vs. Central Michigan, 7 p.m.                                      |
| 11             | Dan Quayle in Athletic Arena, RAC, 7 p.m.                                       |
| 14             | <i>Murder Mystery, MBH</i>  |
| 14             | POS with Guest Artist Eddith Diggory, <i>Symphony of Songs</i> , VAR RH, 8 p.m. |
| 16             | Piano Ensemble Concerts, VAR RH, 8 p.m.   |
| 18             | Student Chamber Concerts, VAR RH, 8 p.m.  |
| 20             | The Oakland Chorale/University Chorus Oakland Chorale Showcase, VAR RH, 8 p.m.  |
| 20             | OU men's swimming vs. Ashland, 4 p.m.   |
| 21             | Voice Day, MTD auditions, VAR   |
| 21             | Coffeehouse, SPB, OC, 8 p.m.  |
| 23             | African Drum and Dance Ensemble, VAR RH, 8 p.m.                                 |
| 24             | OU Jazz Band and Vocal Jazz Ensemble, VAR RH, 8 p.m.                            |
| 24             | OU women's basketball vs. Morehead State, 5:15 p.m.                             |
| 24             | OU men's basketball vs. UM-Dearborn, 7:35 p.m.                                  |

**Performing Miracles**

**Stacie Guerreso (Helen Keller) and Lauren Dowden (Annie Sullivan) perform in Meadow Brook Theatre's production of William Gibson's *The Miracle Worker*.**